

## **Consolidated B-24E #42-7090**

**August 18, 1943**

On the morning of August 18, 1943, Consolidated B-24E serial number 42-7090 took off from Wendover Army Air Field, Utah, for an instrument calibration mission. After circling the field, the bomber made a 165 mph pass over the salt flats at an altitude of 100 feet. A sudden downdraft forced the aircraft down onto the salt flats. It skidded for about a quarter mile on its belly, then broke apart and caught fire. All eleven crewmen escaped with minor injuries. Special thanks to Craig Fuller at AAIR for help with finding this crash site. Site visited on 3/27/25.

### **Crew:**

Pilot	2Lt. Stanley M. Allison	Wood, OH
Co-Pilot	2Lt. Melburn A. Duby	Windsor, VT
Navigator	2Lt. Fred A. Pape	Suffolk, NY
Navigator Instructor	2Lt. Newell L. Stephens	Oklahoma City, OK
Bombardier	2Lt. Phil J. DoZois	Hennepin, MN
Flight Engineer	Sgt. Irvin A. Hime	Cincinnati, OH
Radio	Sgt. Kurt W. Mueller	Chicago, IL
Gunner	Sgt. John D. Casey	Worcester, MA
Gunner	Sgt. Walter A. Blanc	Bayside, NY
Gunner	Sgt. John R. Budge	Monroe, PA
Gunner	Sgt. Gilbert W. Howe	Milwaukee, OR

Note: Allison, Duby, Mueller, Blanc, and Casey were all killed on April 15, 1944, when B-24J serial number 42-100243 was shot down by Japanese fighters over the Indian Ocean.



Wreckage strewn across the salt flats



Piece of front landing gear tire



Melted spark plugs with only the center electrodes and ceramic insulators remaining



Bezel from a cockpit switch





Battery



Structural aluminum



Lots of electrical wiring at this site



Part of a magneto





Part of a chain from flight controls



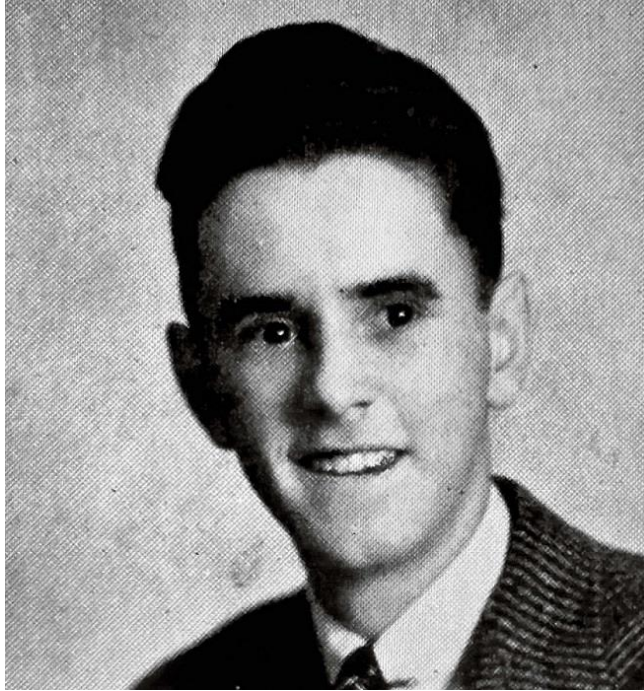
Lots of corroded aluminum tubing at this site



2Lt. Stanley M. Allison, pilot (Courtesy of Find-A-Grave.com)



2Lt. Fred A. Pape, navigator (Courtesy of Ancestry.com)



Sgt. John D. Casey, gunner (Courtesy of Ancestry.com)



Sgt. Walter A. Blanc, gunner (Courtesy of Ancestry.com)





A Consolidated B-24E similar to #42-7090 (USAAF photo)